

THE

Deaf-Mutes' Friend



"UNITED WE STAND; DIVIDED WE FALL."

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF WILLIAM B. SWETT.

AN EXCURSION TO THE FRANCONIA MOUNTAINS.

BY THE EDITOR.

IN September, 1859, the Board of Managers of the "New England Gallaudet Association of Deaf-Mutes" held their biennial meeting at Bradford, Vt. After the business had all been settled, some one proposed, as it was only forty miles to the Franconia Notch, to get up an excursion and visit the place. Seven of those present, including a lady and ourself, decided to go. We left Bradford on the afternoon of Sept. 8th, and arrived at Littleton, N. H., after a hot and dusty, but, nevertheless, pleasant ride. We all wished to ride on the outside of the stage which was to take us to the Profile House, but the driver said it would make the coach top-heavy, and all but two of us were obliged to get inside. The ride was a fine one for the lover of natural scenery; mountains lifted their heads above the clouds in all directions, most of them being clothed half-way to their summits with grand old forests, on which the axe of the woodman had made but little impression.

Passing through valleys with a few scattered farm-houses, climbing hills from the summits of which we had fine views of the surrounding country, then dashing down into a valley deeper than the rest, on, over hill and dale—past all civilized life, we at last found ourselves descending the Notch in the deepening twilight. The evening air was sharp and keen; those inside the coach began to

thank the driver, mentally, for placing them there, and those on the top wrapped themselves up as they could, looking somewhat impatiently for signs of approach to the hotel. Still, there was enough to admire: the narrow road, descending as far as the eye could reach; the cliffs towering on either side; the over-arching trees and the gathering gloom, all tended to impress us with a feeling of admiration and awe at the exhibition of the works of Nature on so grand a scale.

After a time, the gloom of the dark defile began to brighten, the horses broke into a run, and in a few minutes we were deposited on the piazza of the Profile House, where we were received by the landlord, Hiram Bell, Esq., with that hearty welcome with which he was wont to make all his guests feel instantly and completely at home. A roaring wood fire soon made us comfortable, taking away the chilliness induced by a long night ride, and a good supper made us feel at peace with ourselves and all the rest of mankind.

In the morning, the liberality of Mr. Bell placed a four-horse team at our disposal, with which we proceeded to visit such places as our time would admit. Among these were, "The Old Man of the Mountain," already fully described by Mr. Swett, "The Basin," a splendid specimen of Nature's carving, and "The Flume."

Taking the back track, six of us, including the lady, left the carriage at the Stables at the foot of Mount Lafayette and, hiring horses and a guide, we proceeded to ascend the mountain on horseback. The seventh of our party, B—— by name, had been up and down the mountains before, and did not care about doing it again, and so he returned to the Profile House in the carriage.

The ride up the mountain was a toilsome one and took about two hours and a half, the distance being six miles. In looking at the fresh wonders which burst upon the sight at almost every step, one forgets all fatigue or is careless of it, in the pleasure experienced.

The horses we rode were trained animals and knew every foot of the way. We were cautioned not to try to guide or hurry them, but to let them take their own path and go at their own pace; above all, we must not strike them. The caution was timely, as the slow pace, in places where nothing could be seen, was a trial to our patience and we could *see* no harm in a little faster pace.

At one very steep place, where the path lay over a solid rock, the horses paused longer than usual; one of our number, impatient at the delay, struck the animal he rode with a small stick. The

horse started, sprang up the steep incline, missed his footing and fell backward to the foot of the rock, carrying his rider with him, rolling on him in such a manner as to pin him to the earth by one arm and a leg. We dismounted and, with the assistance of the guide, released him from his unpleasant situation. He was considerably bruised, but after a good rubbing, he remounted and rode on. His accident had made him nervous and had disturbed the horse; at every steep place after that, he would dismount, drive the horse up, and then follow him on foot. The rest of us reached the summit without accident.

Arriving at the top, we were somewhat disappointed at the smoky state of the atmosphere, which rendered the view indistinct. Although we felt uncomfortably warm during a great part of the ascent, yet it gradually grew cooler as we went higher, and on the top a cold, sharp north-west wind made overcoats very comfortable to those who had been wise enough to bring them, and made those who had not done so regret it. In spite of the poor state of things as regarded the view, we saw enough to convince us that it was worth all it cost to get there. Having looked about as much as we chose, we sat down under the shelter of a pile of rocks to eat the dinner which we had brought with us in a well filled basket. After spending an hour in this manner, we mounted our horses for the return trip. The descent was harder than the ascent, as our heels were often on a level with the ears of the horses and we had to lean backward till our heads nearly touched the animals we rode.

There was then only a rough bridle-path up the mountain; we understand that it has since been much improved, a house of some kind has been erected on the top, and the ascent is, consequently, more easy and convenient.

An hour and a half found us at the foot of the mountain. The guide who went with us was an intelligent man, and did his best to entertain and inform us on the way, although he probably had more trouble about it than was usual with him, and he said he never went up with such a 'silent' company before. Having been riding all day, we felt the need of a change and, declining the carriage in waiting for us, we walked to the hotel, a distance of about two miles.

After supper, as we were enjoying ourselves around the fire, some one of us suddenly asked what had become of B——, who had left us at the foot of Mount Lafayette. None of us had seen him since our return, and we now made enquiries. Examination proved that

he was not in his room, and could not be found. At last, one of the servants said he had seen him going up the path which led to the top of Cannon Mountain, and that he was alone. Men were instantly sent up the mountain with lanterns to find him. They found his hat down a precipice, but the marks showed that he had gone farther up. His cravat, neck-tie, handkerchief and coat were found in various places as the search progressed. They finally came up with him, far out of the regular path, wandering aimlessly and distractedly about, as completely lost as ever man was, and within a few rods of a steep precipice, toward which his steps were directed and over which he would probably have walked in a few minutes. When he saw that he was saved, his strength, already nearly exhausted, gave way entirely and he became unconscious. The men had to carry him most of the way to the hotel, where a glass of brandy and other appliances soon put him right.

Meanwhile, we had anxiously waited for the return of the party, and were very glad, indeed, when he was brought in, but could not avoid laughing at the strange appearance which he presented.

The next morning we started to return over the same route by which we had come, and a merrier or better satisfied party never left the Profile House.

The party received many favors, both at the mountains and in going to and coming from them, the memory of which is still gratefully cherished by the surviving members, (two are now deceased.) Especially is the unbounded generosity of the landlord remembered, and the wish we then expressed we repeat, wherever he may be: Long may he wave, and may his shadow never be less.

As 'Deaf-Mutes,' we may not have obtained the amount of information which an intelligent hearing traveller would acquire, but we used our eyes and exercised our powers of observation to a sufficient extent to form a fair estimate of the matter; to impress upon our memories an image of what we saw, and to be able to say truly that our visit to the Franconia Mountains was one of the events of our lives.

THERE is nothing which favors and falls in with the natural greatness and dignity of human nature, so much as religion, which not only promises the entire refinement of the mind, but the glorifying of the body, and the immortality of both.

Miscellany.

MEMORIAL.

MILLIE H. CLARK, of Biddeford, Me., a pupil in the American Asylum, died there, November 25th, 1868, after an illness of six days. The following lines were written by her father:—

Far from home our child lay suffering, but she could not tell her pain;
Words of love and tones of pity fell upon her ear in vain.
For in one unbroken silence, her young spirit dwelt alone;
Glance and sign the only language she had ever used or known.

Slowly, sadly, did the Sabbath pass in care and pain away;
Restlessly, upon her pillow, she was watching for the day.
In those weary hours of watching, thoughts of home her spirit throng;
And her eager signs: "my mother," spoke a yearning deep and strong.

Morning dawned, but hope had vanished, naught of skill that life could save.
Did she dread the gloomy valley? Did she fear the lonely grave?
See those hands again uplifted, words of faith and love to frame:
"Thanks to Jesus! Thanks to Jesus!" All is peace thro' that dear name.

Folded now those busy fingers, motionless those restless feet;
But a heavenly peace still lingers on her brow, so calm and sweet.
Not for her Earth's cares and sorrows, all her trials here are past;
Now in Heaven her ear is opened, and her tongue unloosed at last.

Yet, Oh, Lord! our hearts will falter, and our eyes will drop a tear,—
Give us grace to bear our sorrow, all is well, we know, with her.
Leave us not, till in thy presence, our united voices sing:
"Thanks to Jesus! Thanks to Jesus!" Praise and Glory to our King."

SIMPLICITY IS BEAUTY.—"All that glitters is not gold," says an old proverb. It is not the rich and gay dress, the expensive glittering ornaments or the pretty figures that attract the attention of the men of sense. They look beyond these and are not liable to be entrapped. It is the true loveliness of nature that wins and continues to retain the affection of the heart. Young ladies often nowadays sadly miss it, who labor to improve their outward looks while they bestow not a thought to their minds. Let modesty be your dress. Use pleasant language: though you may not be courted by fop and sot, the good and truly great will love to linger in your steps.

Do unto others as you would have others do to you.

THE MICHIGAN DEAF-MUTE INSTITUTE.

BY P. N. N.

THE discovery and settlement of Michigan date far back in our national history, and yet, as a State, she is but a few years old. Like most of her sister States, she has paid much attention to the education of her children, as her numerous school-houses and college-buildings go to prove. She, however, has, perhaps, little to boast of in the fact that she suffered twenty years to circle away, after her admission into the Union as a separate and independent State, before she paid any attention to the education of her deaf and dumb children. The writer proposes to give a *condensed history* of the Michigan Deaf-Mute Institute.

The first movement in favor of it was made in 1848. At that time, the Legislature, then in session, passed a resolution asking a grant of land from Congress in aid of establishing a school for the deaf-mutes in Michigan, but that aid was never granted. At the same time, to aid the enterprise, the Legislature made an appropriation of a few sections of what were then known as "Salt Spring Lands;" but, for some reason, nothing was done during the year to carry the law into effect; and in the next year, 1849, Mr. Ransom, then governor of the State, recommended, in his message to the Legislature, that nothing should be done toward the object until the lands appropriated could be sold or other means provided. His suggestion was taken, and so the establishment of the school was virtually abandoned for the time. During the year, however, the citizens of the then village of Flint, apparently much interested in the enterprise, made an offer of ten acres of land and three thousand dollars, with a view to secure the permanent location of the school at that place. The Trustees appointed and authorized by the Legislature, to select the site, determined to accept that offer and to establish the school there. In 1850, they reported their decision to the Legislature and called its attention to the importance of providing all the necessary means of putting the school in operation without farther delay; but that body, ascertaining that the finances of the State were in a deranged condition, declined to do anything for the enterprise. So nothing was done, and, in truth, nothing was officially heard of the object till 1853, when the Trustees reported that two hundred dollars of the amount so liberally offered by Flint had been expended in improving the grounds. Then the enterprise was talked of again. At this time \$116,555 was lying idle in the State Treasury; of the State's indebtedness nothing was due for several years to come; so it was apparent that something positive and practical could then be done for the enterprise so long abandoned. But the governor, Mr. McClelland, said nothing whatever about it in his message to the Legislature. The year 1854, with \$375, 755 in the Treasury and Mr. Parson as governor, saw the work really com-

menced. This time, six years after the first movement had been made, the Trustees found themselves in command of means sufficient to make a beginning.

On the first of February, 1854, they rented for the use of the school a large, commodious and pleasantly situated building, with pleasure grounds of sufficient extent to afford the pupils ample opportunity for exercise and recreation and, the requisite arrangements being made, the school went into operation on the eighteenth of April with eleven pupils. The rapid increase of pupils made it apparent that the rented building would soon be very inconvenient for such a school, and as rooms arranged with a direct reference to the wants of the classes could not be found, even in the largest house in the place, the Trustees, in 1855, urged upon the attention of the Legislature the importance of making some appropriation for the erection of suitable buildings. After carefully considering the matter a bill was passed appropriating \$33,000 for buildings suitable to the permanent wants of the school.

The site selected for the buildings is upon an eminence, about a mile from the city and sufficiently elevated to secure a good prospect, and the location is in every respect healthful, desirable and well adapted to the purposes and objects of the school. The amount of land originally belonging to the school was the ten acres donated by the citizens of Flint, but two adjacent tracts of eighty-four acres were afterward bought. Most of this land is covered with the original growth of trees, affording good facilities for beautifying the grounds. That on the east of the buildings is under cultivation and devoted to ordinary agricultural purposes.

The school building was completed in a year and immediately occupied by forty-seven pupils and four teachers. The importunities of others for admission soon became so urgent that the want of more room was felt by all connected with the school. In 1857, the finances of the State being in a condition to warrant substantial aid and the progress of the age imperatively demanding it, the Legislature appropriated \$75,000 or more to complete the main building and the two wings. On the fifteenth of July, 1857, the corner-stone of the main building was laid with appropriate ceremonies, in the presence of the governor and other distinguished gentlemen. Letters were read, from H. P. Peet, Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, and others, expressive of regret at their inability to be present and of congratulation at the progress of the enterprise. Mr B. M. Fay, then the principal of the school, made a few remarks in regard to its history; Hon. J. B. Walker, the Building Commissioner, read a list of the articles deposited beneath the corner-stone, twenty-six in number, including a lithographic likeness of T. H. Gallaudet, L. L. D.

After the corner-stone had been laid in its place, the governor made a few remarks relative to the noble enterprise; he was followed by Messrs. Breg and Denison, deaf-mute teachers in the school, who addressed the audience in the 'sign language,' describing the progress which had been made in the instruction of deaf-mutes and expressing their thanks to the Most High for the wonderful mercy He had shown to them and for the great blessings He had

bestowed upon them. Their addresses, having been previously written out by themselves, were read orally, as they were delivered, by the son of the principal.

The buildings were pushed forward to completion as rapidly as prudence warranted, and to-day the buildings, which the State has erected for her deaf and dumb children, are seven in number; all of which, with one exception, are completed.

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF STATE CHARITIES.

In the Annual Report of this Board, after a discussion of the past education and present condition of deaf-mutes, the following recommendations are presented:

"Consideration and discussion by abler minds than ours, of the principles which should underlie our treatment of this special and interesting class of our population, will doubtless lead to a better system than is now suggested; but until such be brought forward, the Board suggests the following:—

First. The State should not assume any more direct charge of or responsibility for such defectives than it has hitherto done; viz: to equalize their condition with that of other children in respect to the facilities for obtaining instruction, by paying the extra cost thereof. The education of a blind or of a deaf child should not cost his parents any more than it costs their neighbors to educate their hearing and seeing children; but it ought not to cost any less.

Second. The State should promote the diffusion of a knowledge of the causes which favor the multiplication of such defectives.

Third. It should, through the Board of Education, or otherwise, favor the attempts at early training of mute children in primary and other schools.

A few lessons given to the scholars of the Normal Schools upon the simple method of teaching deaf-mutes to articulate, might shorten the time necessary for the education of such children in a special institution, and lessen the cost thereof, besides being otherwise useful.

Fourth. It should at least be considered whether legislation is not needed, by which towns and cities with more than ten thousand inhabitants shall make some provision in public schools for the elementary instruction of deaf-mute children.

Fifth. The State should not build up or assume control of any central and extensive institution for deaf-mutes; but should encourage the formation of, and give partial aid to small establishments, conducted by individual citizens or corporations, and these should be distributed over the State.

Sixth. Considering that nearly one half of our deaf-mutes are known to possess, or to have possessed, some degree of hearing, and that this ratio may be even greater; and considering that all of these, and an unknown number

of those congenitally and totally deaf, are favorable subjects for the method of articulation; therefore, all those parents who desire it, should have opportunity for a fair trial of their capacity to acquire human speech. No such opportunity *can* be presented in an institution where the sign language is used as the medium of instruction and of common conversation. Those who profess to give such opportunity, either lack the living faith which is necessary to teach articulation, or do not know how to teach it.

Seventh. The State should encourage and aid associations or municipalities in the efforts to promote the education of deaf-mutes in different parts of the Commonwealth, and as near their several homes as may be; but should not prescribe any special method of instruction, nor whether the language of signs or human speech proper, shall be the basis of instruction and of conversation. It should, moreover, not encourage measures which lead to the persistent association of deaf-mutes as such, and to their separation from general society and the formation of a class or caste.

By diffusing light and knowledge upon this subject, usually considered so dark and abstruse, but really so simple, we shall have fewer mutes in the Commonwealth, and fewer of these will come at public charge.

We shall reduce to its lowest point the barrier which their infirmity places between them and others, and shall promote their fusion with the general mass of society.

Finally. The attempt to lessen the number of defectives by bringing up the general health toward that normal standard at which no abnormalities will appear; to lighten one of the sorest human afflictions; to bring nearer to the bosom of society those cast out by an infirmity,—this, surely, is a work worthy the attention of an enlightened Commonwealth.

A CURIOUS STORY.—Michigan papers state that a young man named George Denslow, living at Rome Centre, in that State, dreamed, on the night March 13, that he was deaf and dumb, and on awaking was horrified to find that he could neither speak nor hear. From that time till the 4th of May, fifty-three days, he remained totally deaf and dumb. On the evening of that day, while returning from the field where he had been at work, an odd feeling came over him and he was obliged to lean against the fence for support. Presently he heard a bird sing, and he found also that his voice had returned to him. During this suspension of voice and hearing he had enjoyed uncommon good health.

A COBBLER'S ADVERTISEMENT.—Surgery performed here upon old boots and shoes by adding of feet, making good the legs, binding the broken, healing the wounded, altering the constitution and supporting the body with new soles. No cure, no pay. Advice free on the most desperate cases.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

On the 3rd of May, A. D. 1819, the Rev. Dr. Butler, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Troy, N. Y., joined in Holy Matrimony, in Cohoesville, Saratoga County, LAURENT CLERC and ELIZA CROCKER BOARDMAN.

This was the first marriage of deaf-mutes of which any note has been taken in this country. On Monday, May 3d, 1869, the 50th anniversary of their marriage, this now venerable couple, so well and favorably known, were visited by deputations of mutes from New York and Philadelphia, representatives of the former pupils of various institutions in the country, who had contributed a handsome testimonial of their affection and reverence to be presented to Mr. and Mrs. Clerc. The enfeebled state of Mr. Clerc's health prevented any unnecessary fatigue on the occasion; but all his visitors had the pleasure of greeting him once more, and extending in a body their congratulations and good wishes through the medium of the Rev. Dr. Gallaudet, the Rev. Dr. Clerc, and Rev. Collins Stone, Principal of the American Asylum. A short address was followed by a thanksgiving to God for the mercies vouchsafed to this aged couple. After the presentation of the testimonials of affection, the company retired to the parlors and partook of refreshments and spent some time in social converse.

The following letter from the pupils of the Deaf-Mute Institutions in New York and Columbus, Ohio, was read:—

HARTFORD, May 3rd, 1869.

"Mr. and Mrs. Laurent Clerc:—The undersigned sincerely offer you their congratulations on this Fiftieth Anniversary of your marriage, *your Golden Wedding*. As you approach the beautiful evening of a long, useful and happy life, what a satisfaction it must be to you to know that you enjoy the heartfelt love and profound affection of a host of friends.

Gracefully responding to the education so wonderfully provided for those whom the Heavenly Father sees fit to deprive of hearing and speech, you have elevated, dignified, and refined the whole deaf-mute community. Bearing in mind the peculiar providential circumstances which brought the husband from France to find his wife in America, and considering all the happy results which have followed your marriage on the Third of May, 1819, we pray God, for the sake of His dear Son, to continue to bless you and to guide you by the Holy Spirit to the end of your earthly pilgrimage, and when your work is done, to receive you to the joys of that higher life where all human imperfections shall be done away.

Begging your acceptance of the accompanying token of our love and esteem, we are, yours sincerely"—

Here the list of names of contributors and a bag of gold amounting to some three hundred dollars, were presented to Mr. Clerc by Wm. O. Fitzgerald, their treasurer.

The following was sent to Rev. Dr. Clerc, in Philadelphia, by some of the contributors there:—

PHILADELPHIA, April 29th, 1869.

"Rev. Dr. Clerc,—Our esteemed friend:—In behalf of the subscribers former pupils of the Pennsylvania Institution for deaf-mutes, we, the undersigned, respectfully beg leave to present, through you, the enclosed gift to your venerable parents, on the occasion of their "Golden Wedding" day, as a testimonial of our affectionate remembrance and our veneration, and also, to offer them our warmest congratulations.

We feel deep solicitude in regard to Mr. Clerc's present condition of health and we fervently pray for his speedy recovery. That both Mr. and Mrs. Clerc's lives may be spared longer, and that they may be surrounded with every earthly blessing that they can, in their advanced age, reasonably enjoy, are our sincerest prayers and heartfelt wishes.

We remain, dear sir, with affection and esteem, yours very respectfully,

THE COMMITTEE.

In addition to the above, a letter of congratulation, with forty dollars in gold, from the principal, teachers and matrons of the American Asylum, was presented by Rev. Collins Stone. The Directors sent in the sum of twenty-five dollars in gold. The whole amount contributed was about five hundred dollars. Other tokens of affection, with many kind words, came from various sources. It was a day long to be remembered by those who enjoyed the privilege of being present. A much larger occasion was intended by the mutes than Mr. Clerc's health could permit. As it was, everything was done in the most quiet manner, to avoid all fatigue and excitement. Mr. Clerc being so very feeble, it was deemed by some not quite prudent to admit so many to his sick room. It will therefore be gratifying to his many friends to be assured that no unfavorable results followed. To have denied him all the sacred anticipations and greetings of old friends on that day might have produced speedy and sad consequences.—*Hartford (Conn.) Courant.*

THE DUMB SPEAK.

A correspondent of the *New York Observer* relates this touching anecdote of one of the pupils of Miss. H. B. Rogers, whose success in teaching deaf mutes to speak has been so remarkable:

"I have been much interested in a deaf mute, seven years of age, the son of a newly-elected Senator from one of the Southern States, who visited, not long since, one of the families of my congregation. He is a boy of uncommon natural intelligence, very quick to comprehend what is said to him, though he cannot hear, and full of vivacity and sport. He became deaf the first year of his life, through sickness, before he had learned to speak. His

father, with whom he was a special favorite, anxious to do everything for him that could be done, placed him last year in the Clark Institute for deaf mutes, at Northampton. There, under the training of Miss Rogers, he soon learned to articulate quite a number of words. After he had been at the institute a few months the father called to see him. It happened to be the time of recess, and the boys were at play on the ample grounds about the building. The boy saw his father coming, and stretching out his arms, ran to meet him, saying at the same time, "Father." It was the first word the father ever heard him speak, and it quite overcame him. He could scarcely refrain from tears. His heart overflowed with joy—joy that it was permitted him at length to hear his dear dumb boy speak and call him father. When I first heard the story, in the presence of the boy himself, so bright and intelligent, so happy in the newly-acquired power of articulate speech, I could not but think of the great Father in Heaven, and the multitudes of mute children He has here on earth; mute at least so far as any acknowledgment of their relationship to Him is concerned—children who have never called Him by the endearing name of Father. And then I thought what must be the joy in that Father's heart when one of these dumb children of His, breaking at length the guilty silence so long observed, lifts his eyes and heart toward heaven and says, "Father."

A DEAF AND DUMB DEBATING CLUB.—A London paper says:

"The deaf and dumb debating club, known as 'The Wallis Club,' in honor of Dr. John Wallis, who in the seventeenth century, succeeded to some extent in teaching the deaf and dumb, has just terminated its third session, in the usual English fashion, by a dinner. The society consists of twenty-eight members, effective and honorary, the qualifications for membership being proficiency in dactylology, in which mode of communication the debates are carried on with (in most cases) the admixture of 'expressive signs;' and it is a satisfaction to know that these denizens of the 'land of silence' are not debarred from the qualification of expressing their opinions on the great political and social questions of the day, adding their influence, minute though it may be, to one side or other in the polemics of life. There have been nine debates during the term, on the following subjects: 'The Irish Church,' 'Which party is most worthy of the confidence of the country—the Conservative or the Liberal?' 'The best way to enjoy life,' 'The new Chief Commissioner of Police—ought not an officer of the army to be appointed in the late Sir Richard Mayne's place?' 'Was the late Abyssinian war justifiable?' 'That early marriages are injurious to society, and should be prevented by law,' 'The Siamese Twins—would surgical operation be fatal to them both?' 'Should deaf and dumb children associate with hearing children at school?' and 'Woman suffrage.' Reading over the minutes of the debates we find the arguments *pro* and *con* wonderfully well expressed. At the closing dinner all the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, closing with—'Success to the Wallis Club.'

Agricultural Department.

FARM NOTES FOR JUNE.

The beginning of June is the time to shear sheep, earlier it is too cool; left later the wool is apt to get wasted against every bush and briar. If cold storms follow, the sheep should be housed at night.

If you are raising calves, provide them with a good pasture with plenty of shade and a shelter from storms. To make good animals, they should have milk till about three months old.

Potatoes can be planted early this month, if not done in May. Small white beans will do very well planted early in June. And even corn may make a good crop, on good land well tilled, as late as the first or second of June. If you fear being short of fodder, plant a field of corn in rows, twenty or thirty kernels to a foot. It will give, on good ground a great yield of first-rate fodder.

The latter part of this month is the time to sow the Ruta Baga turnip.

Early this month set out your cabbages. Do not set them too close; two and a half to three feet is not too wide apart for a large kind. If you can set them out in the beginning of a long spell of wet and cloudy weather, it will save much labor in covering them from the sun and watering, till they get fairly rooted. An acre of cabbages hardly costs more than an acre of corn, and is worth much more.

When you cut your clover, the last of June, do not dry it too much, let it just wilt in the sun, then finish the curing in cocks.

Watch your bees carefully. When they swarm, they generally alight on a tree near the hive, and wait some time. If not attended to, they take a second flight to some hollow tree in the woods—or perhaps, failing to find such a natural hive, may take refuge in some body's house between the boarding and plastering, miles away from you.

Planting remains to be finished, and hoeing comes close behind it. The early sown crops, the onions, the mangolds, the pease and other garden crops need careful attention. Some farmers prefer to sow beets and mangolds this month, for various reasons, and maintain that they get better results from it than from early sowing.

On dry, hot days, keep the plough or the horse hoe at work among the hoed crops—a great deal of hard labor may be dispensed with by the use of these horse implements. Thinning out the various early sown plants also requires attention. Do not neglect this till it is too late. Early thinning makes better and stronger plants. Weeds grow rapidly this month. Make it a rule to keep them down at any cost. It is a terrible waste of land, manure and labor to let them grow. On a dry, warm day go over them hastily

with a hoe or other convenient implement, and they are very easily killed. Don't let your grass get too ripe before cutting it; if you do, it will lose much of its goodness.

With all the pressing work of this month, do not neglect the kitchen garden. A full and liberal supply of vegetables for the table goes far toward reducing the butcher's bill, and vegetables in summer are vastly more healthful and more palatable than too much meat. Sow cucumbers for pickles. Look out for cutworms and squash bugs. Thin out your currant and gooseberry bushes. The only way to get rid of the rose bug is to shake him off and kill him.

The days are long and work pressing, and the farmer should guard against overdoing. In wet or rainy days clear up the barn and put the tools in order.

J. R. B.

JOHNNY CAKE.

THERE are as many different johnny cakes as there are cooks. Hundreds of corn messes are made up and called by their makers, johnny cake, every one of which is as like a genuine johnny cake as a mud-turtle is like a king, not much more so.

To construct a legitimate, good corn cake of this name, scald coarsely ground yellow corn-meal. Stir in an even tablespoonful of salt and two spoonfuls of any cooking fat to each pound of meal. Make the batter so stiff that it will lift heaping on a spoon. Have a dripping-pan as hot as it can be handled, and well greased. Lay in the batter an inch thick, and bake in a quick oven till the crust is a rather dark, rich brown.

A corn cake made thus is very palatable when cold, and as corn was the staple bread food among the early New Englanders, with whom this particular heroism originated, the probability is that its original and legitimate name is rather "journey" than johnny cake.

AN anecdote is related in illustration of the evils resulting from not advertising one's business:—A boy was sent from Groton to New London, Conn., one day last summer, with a bag of green corn to sell. He was gone all day, and returned with the bag unopened, which he dumped on the floor, saying, "There is your corn, go and sell it yourself—I can't. I've been all over New London, and nobody said anything about green corn. Two or three fellows asked me what I had in my bag, and I told them it was none of their business."

AN English farmer, by picking over his seed wheat carefully and planting the grains a foot apart each way, raised one hundred and sixty-two bushels to the acre.

Religious Department.

A SHORT SERMON.

"But to do good and to communicate, forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."—*Hebrews* xiii: 16.

Why do men live? Because God created and preserves them.

But why did He create, and why does He preserve them? That they may be good and happy, and that they may do good and communicate it to others.

Men are God's children—does He love or hate them?

He loves them with an exceeding great and tender love; therefore He preserves them and has provided a Savior for them. He forbears to destroy them for their sins; He gives them the Bible; He invites them to repent and be saved; He threatens them with punishment if they obstinately refuse His offers of love and mercy, and He commands them to do good and to communicate, that they may be happy in honoring him and in helping others.

1. To do good is to help others by every means in our power.
2. To communicate good is to talk to others of good and useful things.
3. Sinful men may obey the commands of God by leaving their evil ways and doing as the Bible tells them.
4. The happy consequence of doing so is that "God is well pleased."

REMARKS.

Have you begun to do good?

Have you done much or little good?

Have you done more good than evil? None of us have.

Have you given your hearts to God, through Christ and asked the Savior to enable you to obey this command?

If not, you have not become good and cannot be pleasing to God.

Begin now to do right, by repenting of sin, trusting in Christ and giving yourselves to the service of God.

Then it will be easy to do good and to communicate, for God will help you.

You will serve Him acceptably here and be received to Heaven to serve Him forever in endless happiness.

DURING Dr. Payson's last illness, a friend, coming into his room, remarked familiarly, "Well, I'm sorry to see you lying here on your back." "Do you know what God puts us on our backs for?" asked Dr. Payson, with a smile. "No," was the answer. "In order that we may look upward," was the reply.

Trifling, and even contemptible things, are often pregnant with power.

TWO PRECIOUS FRIENDS.—Christ has stationed two precious personages near the gateway of his kingdom. They are Mr. Whosoever and Mr. Whatsoever. The former is stationed *outside* the gate, to encourage poor sinners to knock and enter in. His commission reads thus :

“ Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

Hence it is his business to assure all comers that none are unwelcome at that gate. It opens freely to all that knock. There is not a sinner on earth so fallen as to be placed outside of Mr. Whosoever's commission.

Mr. Whatsoever is stationed *inside* the gate of the kingdom. He has the keys of Christ's storehouse and treasuries. It is his business to conduct believers through every part of the heavenly kingdom, and to bid them take whatever they need for their spiritual health and adornment. His commission runs in these words :

“ Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name he will give it you.”

Are not these two personages precious friends? *Whosoever* teaches us that salvation is free to all ; *Whatsoever* that it is so full every one may take all the grace he needs. Reader, have you made the acquaintance of these divinely-commissioned personages?—*Good News.*

KEEP A LIST.—KEEP a list of your *friends* ; and let God be first in the list, however long it may be.

Keep a list of the *gifts* you get ; and let Christ, who is the unspeakable gift, be first.

Keep a list of your *mercies* ; and let pardon and life stand at the head.

Keep a list of your *joys* ; and let the joy unspeakable and full of glory be first.

Keep a list of your *hopes* ; and let the hope of glory be foremost.

Keep a list of your *sorrows* ; and let sorrow for sin be first.

Keep a list of your *enemies* ; and however many they may be, put down the “ old man ” and the “ old serpent ” first.

Keep a list of your *sins* ; and let the sin of unbelief be set down as the first and worst of all.

KINDNESS IN LITTLE THINGS.—The sunshine of life is made up of very little beams that are bright all the time. In the nursery, on the play-ground and in the school, there is room all the time for those little acts of kindness that cost nothing, but are worth more than gold or silver. To give up something, where giving up will prevent unhappiness ; to yield, when persisting will chafe and fret others ; to go a little around, rather than come against another ; to take an ill word or a cross look quietly, rather than resent or return it ; these are the ways in which clouds and storms are kept off, and a pleasant and steady sunshine secured, even in very humble homes and among very poor people, as well as in families in higher stations.

THE DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND.

WM. MARTIN CHAMBERLAIN, Editor.

JUNE, 1869.

WE wish so far to establish the FRIEND during the present year as to be able to enlarge it in 1870. We find that it is much too small for the variety of news and information which we wish to insert and, if it were twice as large, we could fill it with correspondence and other matters of interest to deaf-mutes and their friends.

The education and social and moral welfare of deaf-mutes is now attracting much more attention than it has ever done before, and we wish to do our part in keeping those concerned informed of the progress of matters. To enable us to do this, let all our brethren and our friends subscribe for the FRIEND and get others to do the same. Let them send us whatever of interest may occur among the mutes and any ideas which are thought to be of interest to them.

We again put forth a plea in behalf of our magazine, to solicit the good services of all our friends and all friends of the cause we represent in continuing and increasing our circulation.

For the help, encouragement and support we have already received, we are sincerely thankful. We have not yet attained to the standard which we desire. This has been partly owing to the lack of correspondents and contributors in sufficient numbers to supply us with the variety and quantity of matter which we crave and our readers like. For delays unavoidable we ask kind forbearance, and a continuance of support from our friends, and we ask from those especially interested in our success renewed and increased activity in our behalf.

The earlier before the close of this year that we know that we shall be supported and encouraged in our labors for another year, the better arrangements we can make for the enlargement and improvement of the FRIEND. We shall procure more correspondents and contributors as fast as possible.

We ask nothing for selfish purposes, and only ask support from those who approve our labors and the object we have in view, and the encouragement and assistance which it is in their power to afford; without which the good work which we now have in hand;

the work which now has our time, our wishes and our desires, cannot be carried out.

The deaf-mutes need a paper of their own, and we can and will give them such an one as they need if they will give us their hearty support and encouragement. We can and will make our journal a friend to the deaf and dumb, which shall advocate all that is good in the plans broached for their welfare, of whatever name or nature.

Independent in everything, neutral in nothing, we will take a common sense view of all things, avoiding all personal discussions, while showing both sides of any interesting question through the writings of opposite parties and expressing our opinions freely at all times on any point.

Once more.—Let the deaf-mutes and their friends support our magazine and it shall support, interest and defend them.

"A MARRIED couple in Kentucky, both of whom are deaf-mutes, have an infant child which can hear and, it is thought, will be able to articulate perfectly in due time."

The above paragraph has been going the rounds of the newspapers for a good while. The idea intended to be conveyed by it seems to be, that deaf and dumb people seldom have hearing children and even when they do, it is uncertain whether the children will be able to articulate!

Experience and observation show that only about one in twenty of the children of deaf-mute parents are deaf and dumb themselves. There may be more disposition to deafness from disease than among the children of healthy hearing people, but the deafness of parents has very little to do with causing deafness among their children. There are other causes, prominent among which is the intermarriage of blood relations, some of them being well defined and some not yet fully understood. As fast as these causes are understood and removed, either by law or common sense, so fast will the number of deaf-mutes decrease. At present, their numbers are known to be rapidly increasing.

The wide circulation given the paragraph goes far to prove how little the deaf-mutes are understood by the greater part of the people, and their need of more extended information on the subject.

Deaf-mutes are simply persons who, from some natural defect or as the result of disease, cannot hear and, consequently, are unable to speak; in all other respects they are like unto other men and women, mentally, morally, and physically, better or worse, according as they are controlled by education and other circumstances.

THOSE who receive this number of the FRIEND, who are not subscribers, will please consider it as a specimen, sent in the hope that they may subscribe or do something to extend its circulation.

THE MASSACHUSETTS DEAF-MUTE CHRISTIAN UNION.—A new Association of deaf-mutes has lately been organized and incorporated in Boston, under the above title. It has for its object the moral, social and religious welfare of the deaf-mutes of Massachusetts. It will not confine its operations to the city and vicinity, but will, as fast as its means will allow, extend religious privileges to other cities of the Commonwealth, in most of which are considerable numbers of mutes.

Its members are required to contribute a certain amount each month to the expenses of the Society and for the rest the christian and charitable public is appealed to through its agents. It has already met with a good degree of encouragement and will doubtless be the means of doing much to elevate and improve the condition of the deaf-mutes of the State.

Its officers are as follows:—*President*, William Bailey of Boston; *Recording Secretary*, William H. Goldsmith of Charlestown; *Corresponding Secretary*, Wm. Martin Chamberlain of Marblehead; *Treasurer*, Amos Smith of Boston; *Agents and Collectors*, David White and Robert D. Livingston.

The Union has procured a room at No. 460 Washington Street and will shortly open religious services on the Sabbath. Due notice will be given when the arrangements are completed. The location is only temporary, as permanent rooms are being looked for which shall be specially adapted to the wants of the Union.

BOSTON DEAF-MUTE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—This old Association of the Deaf-Mutes of Boston and its vicinity for their moral and religious improvement is still in existence and in active operation. It originated about eighteen years ago under the form of a Bible Class, and was duly organized in 1859 by the name of "The Deaf-Mute Christian Union." In January, 1866, it was incorporated under the general statute for that purpose, having assumed the name standing at the head of this notice. Meetings for religious instruction and worship have generally been held on the Sabbath, and occasionally at other times ever since. These services have been conducted for the most part in the language of signs, to the edification of the mutes themselves, and with the approbation of several of the pastors of the city churches. In order to meet the necessary expenses of the enterprise, they have obtained assistance from benevolent members of different religious denominations in this city from year to year. And while truly grateful for these expressions of sympathy and encouragement, they earnestly request the continued help of their friends as essential to the prosecution of a work fraught with inestimable blessings to a portion of the community providentially deprived of the religious privileges in which all others may share. Their present place of meeting is in 12 Templars' Hall, No. 430 Washington Street.

The officers of the Association for the year ending in February, 1870, are as follows:—*President*, J. P. Marsh of Boston; *Vice President*, George B. Keniston of Chelsea; *Secretary*, Wm. Lynde of Boston; *Treasurer*, Vacant;

Executive Committee, H. A. Osgood, Isiah Knowles, and Thomas Shackford of Boston. *Trustee*, Joseph Story, Esq., 112 Tremont Street, Boston.

The Association has, for a long time, had its Sabbath morning services conducted by members in rotation, but have recently elected Mr. Thomas W. Berry, formerly a teacher in the New York Institution, and now a student in the Episcopal Theological Seminary at Cambridge, to fill the desk and we understand that he does so satisfactorily.

AWARD OF A CONTRACT.—We learn that the Committee on County Accounts of the Board of Aldermen have awarded to Mr. Amos Smith, the contracts for making new and classified indexes to Suffolk Deeds, embracing all conveyances from 1639 to 1800, also an index to grantees to 1855, a plan and tax sale index. The selection by the committee of Mr. Smith is one eminently fit to be made. He has been connected with the office under Mr. Alline and Mr. Rice for almost a quarter of a century, and has won the esteem and confidence of the community by his industry, faithful attention to business, and by the purity of his character. Mr. S. is a graduate of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Hartford, but his deafness has proved no disqualification; on the contrary, the best thing in his favor and for the public. We think at some future time the people will be pleased to bestow still further honors upon him. We shall wait and see.—*Boston Traveller*.

Few people are aware of the magnitude of the work. The position is one of great responsibility, and the selection of Mr. Smith evinces the confidence placed in his ability, which we can say, from personal knowledge, is well bestowed. Although Mr. Smith had for an opponent a lawyer who sought the work with great persistency, we learn that the vote was unanimous for Mr. Smith. In addition to this, he has the yearly classified work of the Registry, besides holding a responsible position under Mr. Rice, the Register. He has also a well established and lucrative private practice as a conveyancer and examiner of titles. Altogether, he is a very busy man, but he has always proved equal to whatever he undertakes.

If we are correctly informed, the appropriation for the new index work just ordered will exceed twenty-five thousand dollars. We see in this what a deaf-mute is capable of doing. Let others take encouragement from this example and strive to make their mark.

PEOPLE living near the Asylum for the Blind, at South Boston, are so much annoyed by being waked up at five o'clock every morning by the untutored strains of the Asylum Band at its daily practice, they sometimes wish the inmates were *dumb*, as well as blind.—*Traveller*.

We think that the Asylum Band, so far from being blamed, should be commended for its practice of the virtue of early rising, and for the tendency of its performances, untutored though they may be, to promote it among its indolent neighbors.

KOUPONTI writes that the Base Ball Clubs, "Fanwood" and "Athlete," met on the grounds of the latter, May 8th, and engaged in a spirited contest.

He says:—"The game was marked with fine fielding on both sides, but on that of the Fanwoods the credit mostly lies; three brilliant double plays being made which excited the loudest applause.

The Athletes, as may be expected, won the day; they are a fine amateur nine and are a hard team to beat, but their success lies more in their heavy batting than in fine fielding.

It is not my intention to criticise either club, but it is evident that the Fanwoods need greater practice in batting both slow and swift pitching; for they cannot punish the pitching of their opponents sufficiently well to warrant their success in the return game which takes place on Thursday, May 13th, and all they can do is to keep down their opponents' score and endeavor to make the figures look more even."

From the score he sends we make the following summary:—

Outs. Athlete, 27; Fanwood, 27.

Runs. Athlete, 25; Fanwood, 9.

Double Plays. Gillett and Willetts; Gillett and Gardner; Hughes, Robinson and Willetts of the Fanwood.

Fly Catches. Fanwood, 10; Athlete, 11.

Struck out. Fanwood, 2; Athlete, 6.

Time of Game. 2 hours, 14 minutes.

Umpire. T. Garrett of Rival Base Ball Club.

Scorers. W. G. Jones and Sam. Crowby.

ON Wednesday evening, April 21st, in St. Ann's Church, New York City, Miss Caroline Budd Gallaudet, eldest daughter of the Rector, was married to Mr. Alexander D. Shaw.

The ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, assisted by the Rev. Drs. Price and Cooke, and the Rev. Messrs. Benjamin and Holmes.

There were six groomsmen and six bridesmaids, one of the latter being a deaf-mute young lady. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity and hundreds were unable to gain admittance. After the ceremony the relatives and intimate friends called at the Rectory to offer their congratulations to the happy couple. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw are now residing at their home on Staten Island.

WE recently had an interview with Mr. D. S. King, the chairman of the Committee charged with arrangements for the proposed school for deaf-mutes in the city of Boston, to which we have already referred, and gathered, among other things, that there were already quite a number of applications for admission; that the prospects of the enterprise were good, and that the establishment of the school was regarded as a settled thing. We shall refer to this matter more at length in our next number.

ON Sunday afternoon, May 30th, Rev. Dr. Gallaudet of New York City held a service for deaf-mutes in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd in Boston, of which the following is a brief sketch:—

Dr. G. remarked that it gave him pleasure to come to Boston whenever his other duties would permit. He was well aware that most of the deaf-mutes of Boston held different religious opinions from himself, but they and he had many precious truths in common and he hoped that his occasional visits to them were not without some good effect. The work in which he was engaged was a Church work, its object being the spiritual welfare of adult deaf-mutes after leaving school, combined with a will to do all that could be done for them in cases of sickness, lack of employment, &c. The Rev. Mr. Benjamin, who was formerly associated with him in the work for deaf-mutes, was now engaged in working for the Church of the Holy Light and a Home for the Blind, which necessitated the loss of his aid; but it was hoped that when the work he now had in hand was fully and firmly established, he would return to his old place. In the person of Rev. Mr. Holmes, who was now making rapid progress in the sign language, Dr. Gallaudet had received a valuable addition to the working force.

Five services were now held every Sunday at St. Ann's Church, viz: at 7 1-2 and 10 1-2 A. M.; 3, (for deaf-mutes,) 4 1-4, (Sunday School,) and 7 1-2 P. M.

It was early seen that a church exclusively for deaf-mutes would not be self-supporting, and hence the combination with services for hearing people. Much mutual good had resulted from this arrangement. The Church was out of debt and its prospects were very encouraging. There had been a steady progress in things spiritual, without anything startling or sensational; it had been well illustrated that

"God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform."

The Rev. Dr. had recently been to Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia, and held interesting "combined services" at each of those places. In Baltimore about forty deaf-mutes were present. In Philadelphia, Dr. Clerc had the general oversight of affairs relating to deaf-mutes, but, beyond holding evening services every Sabbath at Calvary Church, his numerous other engagements prevented him from giving that particular attention to matters which he would otherwise gladly do. The Dr. briefly referred to the late occasion of the "Golden Wedding" of Mr. and Mrs. Clerc and stated that Mr. Clerc was very feeble.

He delivered a discourse from the words:—

"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom."—*Proverbs 3: 13.*

Solomon had great opportunities for knowing, and he emphatically and repeatedly asserts the unsurpassed value of wisdom. Wisdom is the right use of knowledge. Knowledge cannot make us happy, but the right use of it will. The way to get knowledge is to search and study. Knowledge is open

to all who will look for it. One man cannot learn everything; individuals study that department which suits their taste. In the aggregate, all departments are more or less explored and the world is benefitted by the learning of the whole. The benefit is derived from a right use of the results. It is the use, not the abuse, of a thing which benefits.

The Bible is not devoted to all the sciences, but to the "Science of Salvation." Instead of seeking to acquire a knowledge of spiritual things beyond what the Bible tells us, let us acquire a knowledge of its contents and then make a right use of them; so shall we enjoy true happiness.

Before believing any doctrine or following any path, let us be sure that it agrees with the teachings of the Bible. A knowledge of all truth is impossible without an acquaintance with and a belief in the Bible.

Let us accept the knowledge of eternal life and act accordingly. We must endure trials on earth if we would reach Heaven at last. "No Cross on earth, no Crown in Heaven." Knowledge is an acquaintance with facts; wisdom is a right use of knowledge, and faith in the Bible and the practice of its precepts is the truest wisdom. Try to be truly wise and you will be truly happy.

WE clip the following from the *New York State Radii*, concerning the death of Levi S. Backus, of which event we were not aware until quite recently. The paragraph contains all we know about the sad occurrence:—

"DEATH OF LEVI S. BACKUS.—The sudden death of this our well known citizen, (on the seventeenth of March last,) shocked the community with surprise. Mr. Backus had just removed his family to Cherry Valley and had made arrangements to start a Job Office at that place, and also to publish the *Cherry Valley Gazette*, the first number of which paper he had issued. Mr. Backus left no child, his only boy having died twenty years ago at the age of fourteen. Mrs. Backus, who survives him, is also a deaf-mute, and now assumes charge of his office. Mr. Backus had been connected with the publication of a newspaper for thirty-three years. First in Canajoharie, then, when his office was burned in the "Great Fire" in 1851, he removed to Fort Plain and some years afterwards to Winfield, in Herkimer County, and returned again to publish the *Canajoharie Radii*.

Mr. Backus was known all over the Union as the first deaf-mute who undertook the arduous task (for a mute) of conducting a Press and was sixty-five years old when he died."

WE have received the Annual Report of the American Asylum at Hartford for the year ending May, 1869; the Second Report of the Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf-Mutes, in New York, and other interesting documents, which we shall notice fully in our next number.

We have seen nothing of the Report of the New York Institution, and would be glad of a copy.

INTERESTING MEETING OF DEAF-MUTES.—The main audience room of Grace P. E. Church was comfortably filled with ladies and gentlemen last evening, to witness an interesting service of deaf-mutes in this city. The mutes, to the number of thirty, occupied seats near the chancel, and were in charge of their leader, Mr. Adams. The services were conducted by Bishop Lay, of the Diocese of Easton, assisted by Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, Rector of St. Ann's Church for Deaf-Mutes in New York City, who acted as interpreter. Bishop Lay read a selection of Scripture, after which prayer was offered and singing given by the Church choir, all of which was interpreted by Dr. Gallaudet in the sign language to the mutes, who apparently enjoyed the exercises very much. Addresses were made by several gentlemen present, and were responded to by the mutes in the sign language to the interpreter. The occasion was a most interesting one to all the participants. These unfortunates are members of Grace Church, and are regular attendants at the Sabbath school, forming a class to themselves.—*Balt. Sun. May 24.*

On another page will be found an account of the presentations to Mr. and Mrs. Clerc on the occasion of their Golden Wedding.

The mutes of Boston and vicinity desire it to be understood that they give way to none in veneration and love for Mr. Clerc, and that the reason why they were not represented on the occasion was that the plans of their New York and Philadelphia brethren were known only to two or three of their number, and to these but very imperfectly. Indeed, beyond a mere rumor that it was intended to do *something* about it, none knew anything of the matter. The leading men were all sick and consequently unable to take any measures for an addition to the testimonial, even if they had been possessed of the necessary information. Had it been otherwise, we have no doubt that Boston would have equalled any other city in the proofs of the loyalty of her deaf-mutes to one whose memory is now and always will be cherished in the hearts of the present and future members of the deaf-mute community.

It is a sad misfortune to be deaf and dumb, yet there are some advantages. With an attack of neuralgia in the head and every sound a torture, one feels as if total deafness for an hour would be a blessing. My deaf-mute brother knows nothing of my annoyance in hearing the small black dog down the street barking at every passer-by, waking me at early dawn or just when I have fallen into my first sleep at night. The air is full of sounds, some pleasant, many most disagreeable, and while the deaf-mute is deprived of much pleasure, he is also spared much pain. Perhaps it is well to remember this sometimes when it seems a hard thing to be deprived of hearing.

THE *American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb* for January and April are received, and contain many articles of interest, from which we will give some selections in our next number. The *Annals* is ably conducted and bids fair to be a permanent publication.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[As a general rule, we shall answer the letters we receive, other than strictly business ones, in this department. If an answer by mail is desired to a letter which asks for information outside of business matters, it can be had by enclosing a stamp to pay return postage.]

Three cents is a small sum to pay for one, but if we were to mail answers to all letters we receive, it would cost us many dollars. We shall always be happy to give any information in our power, subject only to the above condition.

All persons, either subscribers or correspondents, will please write name, town, county and state plainly and fully; this will prevent mistakes and save much trouble. In case of removal, let us know immediately, giving both present and former place of residence.

Write whatever you know, feel or think, which you consider of interest; we will make all necessary corrections in the articles we use, and thank you for them.

Correspondents can generally tell whether their articles are received and what we intend to do with them by looking below. We especially desire that all our regular correspondents should send in their favors during the first week of each month, to enable us to go to press early.

All business letters must be addressed to SWETT & CHAMBERLAIN, Henniker, N. H., U. S. A. Address Exchanges, and all articles and letters for the Editor, to THE DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND, Marblehead, Mass.]

T. W.—Shall make use of more or less of your "Notes" in next number.

T. B.—Best leave the question of *short sessions* and of *delegations*, till we see how the matter progresses. The rest is all right, including Thomas, Jr.

A. VISITOR.—Thank you. Shall use it, either by itself or in combination with another report.

P. N. N.—We wrote you some time since, and hope everything is now satisfactorily understood.

J. C.—Cannot give our decision on your last, not having had time to go over it yet. Will try to do so soon.

A. S.—Rather long, but very good; we will try to find room for it.

J. J. F.—Will try to answer at length, if we ever get time, although we do not suppose it will do any good. At present we have other and more profitable matters to attend to, and can postpone the subject indefinitely with no regret.

C. L. W.—Your letter and package both received. It is all right.

As the annual vacations of the Institutions are now near at hand, and many of our subscribers will leave them, some to spend the vacation, returning to their studies in the fall, and others to enter the busy world, having finished their course at school, we desire to say that we will cheerfully change the address of any subscriber who may wish it, either temporarily or permanently, and will send the FRIEND to any place directed until further notice.

PERSONAL.

WE lately had the pleasure of a call from Rev. Dr. Gallaudet of New York. The Rev. gentleman looks well and is very earnest in the work in which he is engaged:—the promotion of the spiritual welfare of deaf-mutes.

He has already done much good in that way, and we hope he may be spared to the work many years, for it would be hard to fill his place, should it be vacated.

WE are sorry to hear that Laurent Clerc, the venerated and venerable instructor of deaf-mutes, is in a very uncertain state of health and has been confined to his bed for some time. We trust our Hartford friends will keep us informed of his condition.

JOHN O. DAVID, our principal travelling agent, is doing much for the circulation of the FRIEND among hearing people and is prompt, energetic, and punctual. We congratulate ourselves on having such help, and will fulfill any and all arrangements which he may make with either hearing people or deaf-mutes.

WILLIAM ACHESON, hitherto one of our agents, having other matters to attend to, has now nothing to do with the FRIEND, and, as will be noticed, his name is dropped from our list.

CHEERFULNEES.—Don't be afraid of a little fun at home. Don't shut up your houses lest the sun should fade your carpets; and don't guard your hearts lest a hearty laugh should shake down the musty cobwebs there! If you want to ruin your sons, let them think that all mirth and social enjoyment must be left at the door when they come home at night. Young people must have fun and relaxation somewhere. If they do not have it at their own homes, they will seek it in other and less profitable places. Therefore, let the fire burn brightly at night, and make home pleasant and delightful with all those little arts which parents so perfectly understand. Don't repress the buoyant spirits of your children; half an hour of merriment around the lamp and fire-light of home will blot out the remembrance of many a care and annoyance experienced during the day, and the best safeguard they can take with them into the world is the unseen influence of a bright little domestic scene.

PLEASURE is a rose, near which there ever grows the thorn of evil. It is wisdom's work so carefully to gather the rose as to avoid the thorn, and let its rich perfume ascend to heaven, in gratitude to Him who giveth both the pleasure and the wisdom to enjoy it properly.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

On Saturday evening, May 1st, a lecture on Homer's Iliad, prepared by J. R. B., was delivered before the Fanwood Literary Association by Prof. A. Johnson in his usual forcible and felicitous manner. It gave a summary from the best authorities of what little is known of that first and greatest of the poets, and related the leading incidents and traits of manners and character from the Iliad, that great poem, held to be of unapproachable excellence and of almost divine authority among the Greeks, the most intellectual people of all antiquity. The poems of Homer were held to contain a complete body of all the knowledge of those times, and have been for ages the great models for epic poetry.

Thursday, May 6th, we had an amateur theatrical representation in Mrs. Peet's parlor, witnessed only by the teachers and officers of the Institution, the High Class, and a few visitors. The piece represented was: "The Spirit of Seventy-six, (1876, not 1776,)" a spirited satire on the Woman's Rights Movement. It was admirably represented by Messrs. Reaves and Syle, with three or four young ladies in the female parts. Mr. Reaves kept the audience in a roar of laughter, and the ladies acted their parts so well as to reconcile one to the idea of the coming rule of that sex.

Our closing day and beginning of vacation has been changed from the last to the fourth Wednesday of June—this year the 23rd—thus escaping the discomfort of arduous labor in what is usually one of the hottest weeks of the year and gaining another week of recreation to recover our mental and physical energies before the re-assembling of the school in September.

We have received two more pupils within a week, each presenting such urgent claims on the score of destitution that the rules were relaxed in favor of their admission, notwithstanding the crowded state of our buildings. This makes the number on our list five hundred and three, about a dozen of whom, however, have gone home for the balance of the term, some on account of their health, and others to aid their parents in their planting.

The walls of our new shops are all up and the floors nearly all laid.

It is proposed to raise the school house another story, thus gaining room for the additional number of pupils expected next fall. Judging from the number of applications already received, we shall have considerably over five hundred next term.

Our Fiftieth Report is out, a copy of which has been or will be sent to you.

We have splendid boating facilities, three boats, and parties out on the noble Hudson almost every day after school hours. For steady, wholesome exercise, rowing is certainly superior to a game of base-ball.

Your Washington correspondent refers to the Sabbath School in the Columbian Institution as if it was a novel feature in such an Institution; on the contrary, we have for a year or two past had a similar arrangement here only our Sunday School is held in the afternoon, taking the place of the lecture or sermon. Formerly the Sunday lessons, (Dr. Peet's Scripture Lessons for the younger classes, and selections from the Bible for the older,) were explained on Saturday morning and studied in the intervals of the two chapel services on Sunday. Now we have no school on Saturday, and only one sermon on Sunday morning, the afternoon being given to a Sunday School, each teacher devoting himself to the religious instruction of his own class. The lessons are recited as formerly on Monday morning. This arrangement possesses several advantages over the old plan of half day's school on Saturday, and two long sermons on Sunday. The teachers have the whole of Saturday for business or recreation, and make it up by their services in the Sunday School, without which the Sunday might be unprofitably spent by some of them, and the pupils, after a whole day of recreation on Saturday, are in a much better frame of mind for the rest, peace and religious instructions of the Sabbath, and there can be no doubt that, as suggested by your Washington correspondent, the Sunday School exercises are more interesting and profitable to them than the second sermon.

FICTION AS READING FOR DEAF-MUTES.

If the question was, what books to select for the study of a class of deaf-mutes, there could be no difference of opinion. Give them *facts*. But for recreation, the *better class* of works of fiction possess many advantages, in this especially, that they present a truer as well as more vivid picture of life, character and manners than can be found in books of history and biography. Of course, there are many works of fiction that are injurious, and a much greater number that are trashy; but the reading of the better class, those, for instance, of Dickens, Cooper, Irving, Scott; even the *Ledger* stories of Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., is nearly an equivalent to mingling in the exciting scenes of real life and listening to the conversation of the witty, the good, the wise, which our misfortune makes otherwise unattainable to us. J. R. B.

THE PROPOSED NATIONAL CONVENTION OF DEAF-MUTES,

MR. EDITOR:—I am glad to see remarks being at last made on T. B.'s question, in the May No. of the FRIEND, as to whether it is desirable or possible that a National Convention be had and hope it will continue to be fairly commented upon until it is satisfactorily settled. I have had the question under my consideration ever since T. B. expressed his opinion on it in his letter to the Convention at Syracuse, N. Y., in 1865; but have always hesitated

to speak publicly of it, wishing that others more learned might take the lead. I will only say here that the longer I have pondered the subject, the deeper I have become convinced that such a convention can be advantageously held, provided all our sister States, now schooled, will cheerfully vie with each other in their willingness to carry it out.

My views fully accord with EN AVANT's own in respect to what he has said, with the exception of the locality for the holding of the meeting. I would prefer Washington, D. C. to Columbus, Ohio, although it is not quite so near the heart amid the sister Institutions as the latter. But there can be gathered the most talented mutes of the land to lead the first convention, and as many for an assemblage as anywhere else, I think. The use of the National Deaf-Mute College could, perhaps, be had on reasonable terms for the occupancy of the convention, during its vacation, if it should be held then; and there is also a greater number of curious, historical and instructive objects to be seen in and around Washington than can be found in any other place.

The time has come when we should prepare to secure the general advancement of our own interests as a class. Such can only be the outgrowth of thorough organization. Perhaps an union can be formed at the meeting on the principle of absolute nationality. Such an one, ably and judiciously conducted on a sound social basis and amply supported by strong combination and unity of action, would be one of the most potent instruments for the good of our whole community. Its scope would be wider and its operations more extended than ever known of before. It would elevate our national character, encourage an universal interchange of sentiment and educate the taste, so that the better and more pleasing traits of our national character may be developed.

Why should we not let mind keep pace with mind in the onward march toward a higher developement, both socially and intellectually? Let all deaf-mutes strive to attain that standard of equality which can be achieved by competent and well organized effort. Let us hear from others. H. C. R.

MR. EDITOR:—After a long anxiety for an expression of opinion among graduates abroad on my suggestion of a national convention for the benefit of deaf-mutes, even for our mute community in years to come, to my joy, I found, in the May No. of the FRIEND, an emphatic response from EN AVANT. His ideas of such a convention are just right. Delay, reluctance, self-will, &c., would produce a failure.

Columbus, Ohio, whose new Institution is considered the largest one for deaf-mutes in this country, may be the most eligible place, but Washington, D. C., may be the most preferable and convenient place for a national convention of deaf-mutes, besides having more allurements for foreign deaf-mutes and those living far away.

A judicious and more economical selection than either of the two places mentioned may be suggested by some one. Let us hear from all the promi-

ment deaf and semi-mutes through the FRIEND. As Rev. Thomas Gallaudet is a judicious adviser and an influential man among the deaf-mutes, his opinion is greatly to be desired on this subject.

Perhaps it may need delegations of two or more from each section of the country to meet at an appointed spot, on a given day and decide upon time, place, and other necessary particulars, the expense of such delegations being provided for when the matter is fully decided upon in the affirmative.

The suggestion needs to be talked over and looked at on all sides, in order to bring about the best possible results.

T. B.

MR. EDITOR:—As you propose to keep your valuable magazine independent and take in both sides of a question, I would like to express a view of the above important subject.

The scheme is not new to us. Laurent Clerc, at the Providence, R. I. Convention, seven years ago, if I am not mistaken, proposed a National Convention, to be holden in a big tent somewhere outside of New England.

Not wishing to oppose our always busy-minded old friend, T. B., and your seconding of the good object, experience would say that the scheme is impracticable if it is proposed to have a permanent organization with the same objects as the local associations, and with regular meetings like them. It would require considerable funds to carry out the enterprise and pay expenses; few of us can afford to devote the necessary time for nothing.

Be not too hasty to start with this enterprise; be sure of success and then go ahead. You want a large attendance. Well, we cannot have a really good time without the presence of a considerable number of ladies. Your experience will tell you that the number of ladies at any convention outside of the Institutions, has been sadly out of proportion to the number of gentlemen attending. Why is this so?

The sure success of the convention depends upon the most proper time and place of assembling, and economical and independent management.

I think it might be well to make the fiftieth, one hundredth, and other anniversaries of the various Institutions the occasions of national conventions. This would cause one to assemble as often as would be convenient or profitable. We have already had two conventions, at Hartford and New York, which might properly have been called national, as both Institutions extended their hospitality to all attending from any part of the nation. The next celebration, the third one in due order, occurs, I believe, in Philadelphia; and you, Mr. Editor, can tell the order in which the succeeding Institutions come.

It would be well to celebrate the anniversaries during vacation, as the institutions are then nearly or quite empty and can afford better facilities for a reasonable price. It might properly be called the "National Social Re-union of Deaf-Mutes."

The management of the celebrations properly belongs to the officers and graduates of the Institution whose anniversary it may be. Officers should be

elected for the time only during which the convention may remain in session. All those attending should be admitted to the full enjoyment of the privileges without the payment of any fee, and the object of the gathering should be simply to aid in celebrating anniversaries; to enjoy social re-union; to discuss useful subjects; to maintain the indispensable and beautiful language of signs, and otherwise promote rational enjoyment. This would simplify matters by saving the time and money spent on permanent organizations, and be both economical and profitable.

W- K. C.

EMPIRE STATE ASSOCIATION OF DEAF-MUTES.

NOTICE.

THE third biennial Convention of the "Empire State Association of Deaf-Mutes," will be held at Ithaca, N. Y., August 25th and 26th, 1869.

Messrs. D. R. Tillinghast of Raleigh, N. C., Thos. J. Trist of Philadelphia, Pa., and Isaac H. Benedict of Washington, D. C., having declined the honor of delivering the Oration, it has been tendered to John Carlin of New York City, who has accepted it. Wm. Martin Chamberlain of Marblehead, Mass., has accepted the post of alternate Orator.

Messrs. Faber, Bartlett and McDougal were chosen as a Committee of Arrangements to attend to the convenience and facilitation of the convention.

Ithaca is well known to many as a very pleasant village, the scenery around which is highly picturesque. It is widely noted for its remarkable waterfalls, which range from one to four hundred feet in height and all possess great attractions to the lovers of the wonders of nature. It is easy of access, either by Cayuga Lake, connecting with the New York Central Railroad at Cayuga, or by the Ithaca and Owego Railroad, which connects with the New York and Erie Railroad at Owego.

There is situated the famous Cornell University, the Agricultural Department of which possesses several hundred acres under high cultivation. It will be worth visiting, especially by those who are farmers, who constitute a great portion of our class.

Rev. Dr. Gallaudet of New York expects to hold a service on Wednesday evening, the 25th; the Bishop preaching through his interpretation.

In view of the many attractions in and around Ithaca, it is reasonable to expect a large gathering, both to seek rural pleasures among the hills and to indulge in mental nourishment on the exercises of the Convention.

Efforts will, as usual, be put forth to make the occasion one of great interest and profit. Notice of half-fare and all other arrangements will be published in the DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND and the *State Radii* in due time.

A. JOHNSON, *President*.

H. C. RIDER, *Secretary*.

TWO GOOD TEXTS.—Dr. Thompson, in his "Seeds and Sheaves," gives an interesting paragraph about John Newton, who, at the age of seventy-nine, testified:—"I have been enabled to commit my soul to Him who says: 'Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out,' and 'who is able to save to the uttermost.' Those two texts have been as sheet anchors, by which my soul has outrode many a storm when, otherwise, hope would have failed. 'In no wise' takes in all characters, and 'to the uttermost' goes many a league beyond all difficulties. I recommend these anchors, they are sure and steadfast."

WORK with a will, and also with your hands and head. It is such that achieve the great things of the world. Nothing is easy that has value. Laziness and sloth never raised a man above the grade of a monkey. Work does the thing, the right thing, and the whole thing.

THE best rule is to be polite to every one and, unless rudeness amounts to positive and intentional insult, to take no notice of it. This is the only way to be happy, in a world where every second man is too obtuse, and every third one too ill tempered, to be pleasantly frank and courteous.

IF a man is contented with what he has done, he has laid down to die. The grass is already growing over him.

GIVE to the world one half of the Sunday, and you will find that religion has no strong hold on the other half.—*Sir Walter Scott.*

Marriages.

IN Boston, Mass., May 1st, by Amos Smith, Esq., Mr. HENRY HARRINGTON of Lowell, Mass., (a graduate of New York Institution,) to Miss SUSAN F., daughter of the late Dea. Samuel Worcester of Dracut, Mass. (a graduate of Am. Asylum.)

[Mr. Harrington is a brother of Mrs. Wm. B. Swett, and his wife adds another to the already large number of deaf-mutes connected with that family. Ed.]

Deaths.

IN Bristol, N. H., April 12th, CAROLINE, wife of George Webster, aged 57. [Mrs. Webster was a deaf-mute, but never attended school.]

IN —, Alabama, March 1st, Mrs. Kate A. Cubberley, (formerly Miss Donnell, a graduate of the Iowa Institution.)

IN Cherry Valley, N. Y., March 17th, LEVI S. BACKUS, aged 65. [See notice on another page.]